of amino acids having sulfur-containing side chains is cysteine and methionine. Preferred conservative amino acids substitution groups include: valine-leucine-isoleucine, phenylalanine-tyrosine, lysine-arginine, alanine-valine, and asparagine-glutamine, glutamic acid-aspartic acid, leucine-methionine; glutamine-histdine.

Replace the third paragraph on page 11 with the following paragraph.

The $iPLA_{2\gamma}$ polynucleotides of the present invention include those nucleic acid molecules, both DNA and RNA, which encode the $iPLA_{2\gamma}$ polypeptides. Such $iPLA_{2\gamma}$ polypeptides include, in particular, the coding regions of splice variants as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 (splice variants gamma 1 and gamma 2) and splice variant gamma 3 (see Figures 2-4) as well as their complements. Also included are cDNA sequences which show at least 20% identity with the cDNA sequences defined above and sequences which hybridize.

IN THE CLAIMS

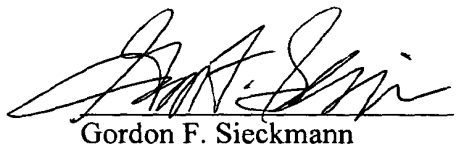
3. (once amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2 wherein said polynucleotide encodes a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 [or SEQ ID NO:2].

6. (once amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a fragment of a polynucleotide encoding a phospholipase $A_{2\gamma}$ wherein said fragment specifically hybridizes with a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 (SEQ ID NO:5 or SEQ ID NO:6].

7. (once amended) An isolated nucleic acid comprising a polynucleotide having at least about 90% identity with SEQ ID NO: 2 [3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, or SEQ ID NO:6] wherein the encoded polypeptide possesses enzymatic activity.

8. (once amended) An isolated nucleic acid according to claim 7 comprising SEQ ID NO: 2 [3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, or SEQ ID NO:6].

Respectfully Submitted,



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